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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

PIPE RESTORATION  
TECHNOLOGIES, LLC a Nevada  
limited Liability Company; ACE  
DURAFLO SYSTEMS, LLC, a Nevada  
Limited Liability Company,

Plaintiffs,

vs.

FLORIDA DRAIN-LINING  
SOLUTIONS, LLC, a Florida Limited  
Liability Company; RONALD  
CODDINGTON, an individual; and  
DOES 1 through 10, inclusive,

Defendants.

Case No. 8:23-cv-00237-FWS-DFM

Hon. Douglas F. McCormick  
Courtroom 6B

**PROTECTIVE ORDER**

1 In light of the Stipulation of the parties filed herewith, and good cause  
2 appearing therefore, **IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** as follows:

3 **I. DEFINITIONS**

4 A. Party

5 Any party to this action, including all of its officers, directors, employees,  
6 consultants, retained experts, and outside counsel (and their support staff).

7 B. Disclosure or Discovery Material

8 All items or information, regardless of the medium or manner generated,  
9 stored, or maintained (including, among other things, testimony, transcripts, or  
10 tangible things) that are produced or generated in disclosures or responses to  
11 discovery in this matter.

12 C. “Confidential” Information or Items

13 Information (regardless of how generated, stored or maintained) or tangible  
14 things that qualify for protection under standards developed under F.R.Civ.P. 26(c).

15 D. “Highly Confidential -- Attorneys’ Eyes Only” Information or Items

16 Confidential Information or Items whose disclosure to another Party or  
17 nonparty would create a substantial risk of serious injury that could not be avoided  
18 by less restrictive means. For purposes of this case, “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL –  
19 ATTORNEYS’ EYES ONLY” will be limited to: (i) the Parties’ non-public  
20 financial information, as it relates to costs, revenues and profits generally or for  
21 specific products; (ii) information of a competitively or commercially sensitive or  
22 proprietary nature or trade secrets regarding any products made by or for a Party;  
23 (iii) non-public customer or distributor information, including non-public  
24 arrangements and agreements with customers and distributors and the prices at  
25 which products are sold to customer and distributors, but not including the names of  
26 the customers or identification of the products sold to them; (iv) research and  
27 development materials concerning unreleased products or services; (v) the  
28 confidential terms of any licenses; and (vi) any other information that the Parties,

1 through their counsel, agree in writing during the course of this litigation, would  
2 create a substantial risk of serious harm if disclosed.

3 E. Receiving Party

4 A Party that receives Disclosure or Discovery Material from a Producing  
5 Party.

6 F. Producing Party

7 A Party or non-party that produces Disclosure or Discovery Material in this  
8 action.

9 G. Designating Party

10 A Party or non-party that designates information or items that it produces in  
11 disclosures or in responses to discovery as “Confidential” or “Highly Confidential  
12 — Attorneys’ Eyes Only.”

13 H. Protected Material

14 Any Disclosure or Discovery Material that is designated as “Confidential” or  
15 as “Highly Confidential – Attorneys’ Eyes Only.”

16 I. Outside Counsel

17 Attorneys who are not employees of a Party but who are retained to represent  
18 or advise a Party in this action.

19 J. Expert

20 A person with specialized knowledge or experience in a matter pertinent to  
21 the litigation who has been retained by a Party or its counsel to serve as an expert  
22 witness or as a consultant in this action. This definition includes a professional jury  
23 or trial consultant retained in connection with this litigation.

24 K. Professional Vendors

25 Persons or entities who provide litigation support services (e.g.,  
26 photocopying; videotaping; translating; preparing exhibits or demonstrations;  
27 organizing, storing, retrieving data in any form or medium; etc.) and their  
28 employees and subcontractors.

1 **II. SCOPE**

2 The protections conferred by this Order cover not only Protected Material (as  
3 defined above), but also any information copied or extracted therefrom, as well as  
4 all copies, excerpts, summaries, or compilations thereof, plus testimony,  
5 conversations, or presentations by parties or counsel to or in other settings that  
6 might reveal Protected Material. This Order does not apply to court hearings or  
7 proceedings. The use of Confidential and Highly Confidential – Attorneys Eyes  
8 Only information or items in court hearings or proceedings will be addressed with  
9 the judicial officer conducting the proceeding at the appropriate time.

10 **III. DURATION**

11 Even after the termination of this litigation, the confidentiality obligations  
12 imposed by this Order shall remain in effect until a Designating Party agrees  
13 otherwise in writing or a Court Order otherwise directs.

14 **IV. DESIGNATING PROTECTED MATERIAL**

15 A. Exercise of Restraint and Care in Designating Material for Protection.

16 Each Party or non-party that designates information or items for protection  
17 under this Order must take care to limit any such designation to specific material  
18 that qualifies under the appropriate standards. A Designating Party must take care to  
19 designate for protection only those parts of material, documents, items, or oral or  
20 written communications that qualify — so that other portions of the material,  
21 documents, items, or communications for which protection is not warranted are not  
22 swept unjustifiably within the ambit of this Order.

23 Mass, indiscriminate, or routinized designations are prohibited. Designations  
24 that are shown to be clearly unjustified, or that have been made for an improper  
25 purpose (e.g., to unnecessarily encumber or retard the case development process, or  
26 to impose unnecessary expenses and burdens on other parties), may expose the  
27 Designating Party to sanctions.

28 If it comes to a Party's or a non-party's attention that information or items

1 that it designated for protection do not qualify for protection at all, or do not qualify  
 2 for the level of protection initially asserted, that Party or non-party must promptly  
 3 notify all other parties that it is withdrawing the prior designation.

4 B. Manner and Timing of Designations.

5 Except as otherwise provided in this Order, or as otherwise stipulated or  
 6 ordered, material that qualifies for protection under this Order must be clearly so  
 7 designated before the material is disclosed or produced.

8 Designation in conformity with this Order requires:

9 (i) For information in documentary form (apart from transcripts of  
 10 depositions or other pretrial or trial proceedings), that the Producing Party affix the  
 11 legend “CONFIDENTIAL” or “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL —ATTORNEYS’  
 12 EYES ONLY” at the top or bottom of each page that contains protected material. If  
 13 only a portion or portions of the material on a page qualifies for protection, the  
 14 Producing Party also must clearly identify the protected portion(s) (e.g., by making  
 15 appropriate markings in the margins) and must specify, for each portion, the level of  
 16 protection being asserted (either “CONFIDENTIAL” or “HIGHLY  
 17 CONFIDENTIAL — ATTORNEYS’ EYES ONLY”).

18 A Party or non-party that makes original documents or materials available for  
 19 inspection need not designate them for protection until after the inspecting Party has  
 20 indicated which material it would like copied and produced. During the inspection  
 21 and before the designation, all of the material made available for inspection shall be  
 22 deemed “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL — ATTORNEYS’ EYES ONLY.” After the  
 23 inspecting Party has identified the documents it wants copied and produced, the  
 24 Producing Party must determine which documents, or portions thereof, qualify for  
 25 protection under this Order, then, before producing the specified documents, the  
 26 Producing Party must affix the appropriate legend (“CONFIDENTIAL” or  
 27 “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL — ATTORNEYS’ EYES ONLY”) at the top or  
 28 bottom of each page that contains Protected Material. If only a portion or portions of

1 the material on a page qualifies for protection, the Producing Party also must clearly  
 2 identify the protected portion(s) (e.g., by making appropriate markings in the  
 3 margins) and must specify, for each portion, the level of protection being asserted  
 4 (either “CONFIDENTIAL” or “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL —ATTORNEYS’  
 5 EYES ONLY”).

6 (ii) For testimony given in deposition, that the Party or non-party offering  
 7 or sponsoring the testimony identify on the record, before the close of the  
 8 deposition, all protected testimony, and further specify any portions of the testimony  
 9 that qualify as “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL — ATTORNEYS’ EYES ONLY.”

10 When it is impractical to identify separately each portion of testimony that is  
 11 entitled to protection, and when it appears that substantial portions of the testimony  
 12 may qualify for protection, the Party or non-party that sponsors, offers, or gives the  
 13 testimony may invoke on the record (before the deposition is concluded) a right to  
 14 have up to 10 days after receipt of the transcript to identify the specific portions of  
 15 the testimony as to which protection is sought and to specify the level of protection  
 16 being asserted (“CONFIDENTIAL” or “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL —  
 17 ATTORNEYS’ EYES ONLY”). Once this right to designate portions of the  
 18 transcript as Protected Material has been invoked, the entire transcript, and all  
 19 testimony given in the deposition, shall be treated as “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL –  
 20 ATTORNEYS’ EYES ONLY” until the 10 day period has lapsed; thereafter, only  
 21 those portions of the testimony that are appropriately designated for protection  
 22 within the 10 days shall be covered by the provisions of this Stipulated Protective  
 23 Order, unless a Designating party specifies that the entire transcript shall be treated  
 24 as “CONFIDENTIAL” or “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL – ATTORNEYS’ EYES  
 25 ONLY.

26 Transcript pages containing Protected Material must be separately bound by  
 27 the court reporter, who must affix to the top or bottom of each such page the legend  
 28 “CONFIDENTIAL” or “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL — ATTORNEYS’ EYES

1 ONLY,” as instructed by the Party or non-party offering or sponsoring the witness  
2 or presenting the testimony.

3 (iii) For information produced in some form other than documentary, and  
4 for any other tangible items, that the Producing Party affix in a prominent place on  
5 the exterior of the container or containers in which the information or item is stored  
6 the legend “CONFIDENTIAL” or “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL — ATTORNEYS’  
7 EYES ONLY.” If only portions of the information or item warrant protection, the  
8 Producing Party, to the extent practicable, shall identify the protected portions,  
9 specifying whether they qualify as “Confidential” or as “Highly Confidential —  
10 Attorneys’ Eyes Only.”

11 C. Inadvertent Failures to Designate.

12 An inadvertent failure to designate qualified information or items as  
13 “Confidential” or “Highly Confidential — Attorneys’ Eyes Only” does not, standing  
14 alone, waive the Designating Party’s right to secure protection under this Order for  
15 such material. If material is appropriately designated as “Confidential” or “Highly  
16 Confidential —Attorneys’ Eyes Only” after the material was initially produced, the  
17 Receiving Party, on timely notification of the designation, must make reasonable  
18 efforts to assure that the material is treated in accordance with the provisions of this  
19 Order.

20 **V. CHALLENGING CONFIDENTIALITY DESIGNATIONS**

21 A. Timing of Challenges.

22 Any Party or Non-Party may challenge a designation of confidentiality at any  
23 time. Unless a prompt challenge to a Designating Party’s confidentiality  
24 designation is necessary to avoid foreseeable substantial unfairness, unnecessary  
25 economic burdens, or a later significant disruption or delay of the litigation, a Party  
26 does not waive its right to challenge a confidentiality designation by electing not to  
27 mount a challenge promptly after the original designation is disclosed.  
28



1           B.     Meet and Confer.

2           A Party that elects to initiate a challenge to a Designating Party's  
3 confidentiality designation must do so in good faith and must begin the process by  
4 conferring directly (in voice to voice dialogue) with counsel for the Designating  
5 Party. Once the counsel for the challenging party makes counsel for the Designating  
6 Party aware of his desire to meet and confer, the counsel for the parties must begin  
7 the process by conferring within 10 days. In conferring, the challenging Party must  
8 explain the basis for its belief that the confidentiality designation was not proper and  
9 must give the Designating Party an opportunity to review the designated material, to  
10 reconsider the circumstances, and, if no change in designation is offered, to explain  
11 the basis for the chosen designation. A challenging Party may proceed to the next  
12 stage of the challenge process only if it has engaged in this meet and confer process  
13 first or establishes that the Designating Party is unwilling to participate in the meet  
14 and confer process in a timely manner.

15           C.     Judicial Intervention.

16           A Party that elects to press a challenge to a confidentiality designation after  
17 considering the justification offered by the Designating Party may file and serve a  
18 motion that identifies the challenged material and sets forth in detail the basis for the  
19 challenge. Each such motion shall set forth with specificity the justification for the  
20 confidentiality designation that was given by the Designating Party in the meet and  
21 confer dialogue required under Paragraph VI(B), *supra.*, or explain that no  
22 justification was given, if that is the case.

23           The burden of persuasion in any such challenge proceeding shall be on the  
24 Designating Party. Until the Court rules on the challenge, all parties shall continue  
25 to afford the material in question the level of protection to which it is entitled under  
26 the Producing Party's designation.

27           Any motion brought pursuant to this Section shall be governed by Local  
28 Rules 37-1 and 37-2 (including the Joint Stipulation Requirement).



1 **VI. ACCESS TO AND USE OF PROTECTED MATERIAL**

2 A. Basic Principles.

3 A Receiving Party may use Protected Material that is disclosed or produced  
4 by another Party or by a non-party in connection with this case only for prosecuting,  
5 defending, or attempting to settle this litigation. Such Protected Material may be  
6 disclosed only to the categories of persons and under the conditions described in this  
7 Order. When the litigation has been terminated, a Receiving Party must comply with  
8 the provisions of section XI below.

9 Protected Material must be stored and maintained by a Receiving Party at a  
10 location and in a secure manner that ensures that access is limited to the persons  
11 authorized under this Order.

12 B. Disclosure of “CONFIDENTIAL” Information or Items.

13 Unless otherwise ordered by the Court or permitted in writing by the  
14 Designating Party, a Receiving Party may disclose any information or item  
15 designated CONFIDENTIAL only to:

16 (i) the Receiving Party’s Outside Counsel of record in this action, as well  
17 as employees of said Counsel to whom it is reasonably necessary to disclose the  
18 information for this litigation;

19 (ii) the officers, directors, and employees of the Receiving Party to whom  
20 disclosure is reasonably necessary for this litigation;

21 (iii) experts (as defined in this Order) of the Receiving Party to whom  
22 disclosure is reasonably necessary for this litigation and who have signed the  
23 “Acknowledgment and Agreement to Be Bound” (Exhibit A);

24 (iv) the Court and its personnel;

25 (v) court reporters, their staffs, and professional vendors to whom  
26 disclosure is reasonably necessary for this litigation;

27 (vi) during their depositions, witnesses in the action to whom disclosure is  
28 reasonably necessary for this litigation and who have signed the “Acknowledgment

1 and Agreement to Be Bound” (Exhibit A), unless otherwise agreed by the  
 2 Designating Party or ordered by the court. Pages of transcribed deposition  
 3 testimony or exhibits to depositions that reveal Protected Material must be  
 4 separately bound by the court reporter and may not be disclosed to anyone except as  
 5 permitted under this Stipulated Protective Order;

6 (vii) the author of the document or the original source of the information.

7 C. Disclosure of “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL — ATTORNEYS’ EYES  
 8 ONLY” Information or Items.

9 Unless otherwise ordered by the Court or permitted in writing by the  
 10 Designating Party, a Receiving Party may disclose any information or item  
 11 designated “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL — ATTORNEYS’ EYES ONLY” only to:

12 (i) the Receiving Party’s Outside Counsel of record in this action, as well  
 13 as employees of said Outside Counsel to whom it is reasonably necessary to disclose  
 14 the information for this litigation;

15 (ii) Experts (as defined in this Order) (1) to whom disclosure is reasonably  
 16 necessary for this litigation, and (2) who have signed the “Agreement to Be Bound  
 17 by Protective Order” (Exhibit A);

18 (iii) the Court and its personnel;

19 (iv) court reporters, their staffs, and professional vendors to whom  
 20 disclosure is reasonably necessary for this litigation; and

21 (v) the author of the document or the original source of the information.

22 **VII. PROTECTED MATERIAL SUBPOENAED OR ORDERED**  
 23 **PRODUCED IN OTHER LITIGATION.**

24 If a Receiving Party is served with a subpoena or an order issued in other  
 25 litigation that would compel disclosure of any information or items designated in  
 26 this action as “CONFIDENTIAL” or “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL —  
 27 ATTORNEYS’ EYES ONLY,” the Receiving Party must so notify the Designating  
 28 Party, in writing (by email or fax, if possible) immediately and in no event more

1 than three court days after receiving the subpoena or order. Such notification must  
2 include a copy of the subpoena or court order.

3 The Receiving Party also must immediately inform in writing the Party who  
4 caused the subpoena or order to issue in the other litigation that some or all the  
5 material covered by the subpoena or order is the subject of this Protective Order. In  
6 addition, the Receiving Party must deliver a copy of this Stipulated Protective Order  
7 promptly to the Party in the other action that caused the subpoena or order to issue.

8 The purpose of imposing these duties is to alert the interested parties to the  
9 existence of this Protective Order and to afford the Designating Party in this case an  
10 opportunity to try to protect its confidentiality interests in the Court from which the  
11 subpoena or order issued. The Designating Party shall bear the burdens and the  
12 expenses of seeking protection in that Court of its confidential material — and  
13 nothing in these provisions should be construed as authorizing or encouraging a  
14 Receiving Party in this action to disobey a lawful subpoena issued in another action.

#### 15 **VIII. UNAUTHORIZED DISCLOSURE OF PROTECTED MATERIAL.**

16 If a Receiving Party learns that, by inadvertence or otherwise, it has disclosed  
17 Protected Material to any person or in any circumstance not authorized under this  
18 Stipulated Protective Order, the Receiving Party must immediately (a) notify in  
19 writing the Designating Party of the unauthorized disclosures, (b) use its best efforts  
20 to retrieve all copies of the Protected Material, (c) inform the person or persons to  
21 whom unauthorized disclosures were made of all the terms of this Order, and (d)  
22 request such person or persons to execute the “Acknowledgment and Agreement to  
23 Be Bound” that is attached hereto as **Exhibit A**.

#### 24 **IX. FILING OF PROTECTED MATERIAL.**

25 In Accordance with Local Rule 79-5.1, if any papers to be filed with the  
26 Court contain information and/or documents that have been designated as  
27 “Confidential” or “Highly Confidential – Attorneys’ Eyes Only,” the proposed filing  
28 shall be accompanied by an application to file the papers or the portion thereof

1 containing the designated information or documents (if such portion is segregable)  
2 under seal; and the application shall be directed to the judge to whom the papers are  
3 directed. For motions, the parties shall publicly file a redacted version of the motion  
4 and supporting papers.

5 **X. FINAL DISPOSITION.**

6 Unless otherwise ordered or agreed in writing by the Producing Party, within  
7 sixty days after the final termination of this action including appeals, each Receiving  
8 Party must: (a) return all Protected Material to the Producing Party; or (b) destroy  
9 the Protected Material. As used in this subdivision, “all Protected Material”  
10 includes all copies, abstracts, compilations, summaries or any other form of  
11 reproducing or capturing any of the Protected Material. Whether the Protected  
12 Material is returned or destroyed, the Receiving Party must submit a written  
13 certification to the Producing Party (and, if not the same person or entity, to the  
14 Designating Party) by the sixty day deadline that identifies (by category, where  
15 appropriate) all the Protected Material that was returned or destroyed and that  
16 affirms that the Receiving Party has not retained any copies, abstracts, compilations,  
17 summaries or other forms of reproducing or capturing any of the Protected Material.  
18 Notwithstanding this provision, counsel are entitled to retain archival copies of all  
19 pleadings, motion papers, transcripts, legal memoranda, correspondence or attorney  
20 work product, even if such materials contain Protected Material. Any such archival  
21 copies that contain or constitute Protected Material remain subject to this Protective  
22 Order as set forth in Section IV (DURATION) above.

23 **XI. MISCELLANEOUS**

24 A. Right to Further Relief.

25 Nothing in this Order abridges the right of any person to seek its modification  
26 by the Court in the future.

27 B. Right to Assert Other Objections.

28 By stipulating to the entry of this Protective Order no Party waives any right

1 it otherwise would have to object to disclosing or producing any information or item  
2 on any ground not addressed in this Stipulated Protective Order. Similarly, no Party  
3 waives any right to object on any ground to use in evidence of any of the material  
4 covered by this Protective Order.

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6 **IT IS SO ORDERED.**

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8 Dated: June 5, 2023

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DOUGLAS F. MCCORMICK  
U.S. MAGISTRATE JUDGE

**EXHIBIT A**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, declare as follows:

1. My present address is: \_\_\_\_\_.
2. My present occupation or job description is: \_\_\_\_\_.
3. My present employer is: \_\_\_\_\_.
4. I have received a copy of the Stipulated Protective Order (“Order”)

entered in *Pipe Restoration Technologies, LLC, et al. v. Florida Drain-Lining Solutions, LLC, et al.*, Case No. 8:23-cv-00237-FWS-DFM pending in the United States District Court for the Central District of California. I have carefully read and understand the provisions of the Order.

5. I will comply with all of the provisions of the Order. I will hold in confidence, will not disclose to anyone other than those persons specifically authorized by the Order, and will not copy or use except for the purposes of this action, any Protected Material that I receive in this action.

6. I submit to the jurisdiction of this Court for the purposes of enforcement of this Order.

Executed this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 20\_\_, in the County of \_\_\_\_\_, State of \_\_\_\_\_.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States that the foregoing is true and correct.

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE OF DECLARANT